

### **REMARKS**


Claims 27-52 are pending in the application. The Examiner rejected claims 27, 29, 35, 36, 40, 42, 43, 46, 50, & 52, but indicated that claims 28, 30-34, 37-39, 41, 44, 45, 47-49, & 51 were allowed.

- 5        Accordingly, Applicants have amended the claims so that all claim in the application depend from claims that were deemed allowable in the Office Action. Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

### CONCLUSION

Inasmuch as each of the rejections have been overcome by the amendments, and all of the Examiner's suggestions and requirements have been satisfied, it is respectfully requested that the present application be reconsidered, the rejections be withdrawn and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

 (Reg. No. 45,877)

Mark Bergner  
SCHIFF HARDIN, LLP  
PATENT DEPARTMENT  
6600 Sears Tower  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6473  
(312) 258-5779  
Attorney for Applicants  
Customer Number 26574

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 23, 2006.

